

THE THOUSANDTH MAN

Author of *THE AMATEUR CRACKSMAN*, *RAFFLES*, Etc.

Illustrations by O. IRWIN MYERS

CHAPTER XI—Continued.

The trusty, stately, sensible voice, half bantering but altogether kind, genuinely interested in the least bit inquisitive, too, would have gone to a harder or more hardened heart than that of the young man. He looked at her, and she looked at him. "I'll tell you some time," he puffed. "It's only a case of two heads," said Blanche. "I know you're bothered, and I should like to help, that's all."

"You couldn't."

"How do you know? I believe you're going to devote yourself to this poor man—if you can get him off—I mean, when you do."

"Well," he said.

"Surely I could help you there! Especially if he's ill," cried Blanche, encouraged by his silence. "I'm not half a bad nurse, really!"

"I'm certain you're not."

"Does he look very ill?"

"She had been trying to avoid the direct question as far as possible, but this one seemed so harmless. Yet it was received in a stony silence unlike any that had gone before. It was as though Blanche had moved on a breathless, where he had been all along and she had not moved. His pipe was out already—that was the one merit of his tobacco, it required constant attention—and he did not look like lighting it again."

"Until tonight they had not mentioned Blanche since the morning began. That had been a tacit rule of the road, of wayside talk and indoor orgy. But Blanche had always assumed that Blanche had been to see him in the prison; and now he told her that he never had."

"I can't face him," he cried under his breath, "and that's the truth! Let me get him out of this hole, and I'm his man forever; but until I do, while there's a chance of falling, I simply can't face the fellow. It isn't as if he's asked to see me. Why should I force myself upon him?"

"He hasn't asked to see you because he doesn't know what you're doing for him!" Blanche leaned forward as eagerly as she was speaking, all her repressed feelings coming to their own in her for just a moment. "He doesn't know because I believe you wouldn't have him told that you'd arrived, but he should suspect! You are a brick, sweep, you really are!"

"He was too much of one to sit still under the name. He sprang up, beating his hands. 'Why shouldn't I be—'

"Look here, Blanche! If you had a friend, wouldn't you do it?"

to him—to a poor devil who's been through all he's been through? Ten years! Just think of it! No, it's unthinkable to you or me. And it is started in our office; we were to blame for not keeping our eyes open; things couldn't have come to such a pass if we'd done our part, my poor old father for one—I can't help saying it—and I myself for another. Talk about contributory negligence! We were negligent, as well as blind. We didn't know a villain when we saw one, and we let him make another villain under our noses; and the second one was the only one we could see in his true colors, even then. Do you think we owe him nothing now? Don't you think I owe him something, as the only man left to pay?"

But Blanche made no attempt to answer his passionate questions. He had let himself go at last; he relieved her also in a way, for it was the natural man back again on her balcony. But he had let Blanche off thinking on other lines than he intended.

"I'm thinking of what he must have felt he owed Mr. Craven and—and Ethel!" she owned.

"I don't bother my head over either of them," returned Blanche harshly. "He was never a white man in his lifetime, and she was every inch his daughter. Scruton's the one I pity—because I've suffered so much from that man myself."

"But you don't think he did it?"

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

"I don't think he did it."

Blanche was sharp enough to interrupt.

"No—no—but if he had!"

"I've told you so before. I meant to take him back to Australia with me—I never told you that—but I meant to take him and not a soul out there to know who he was. He sighed aloud over the tragic stopper on that plan."

"And would you still?" she asked. "If I could get him off."

"Guilty or not guilty?"

"Rather!"

"There was neither shame, pose, nor hesitation about that. Blanche went through into the room without a word, but her eyes shone finely in the lamplight. Then she returned with a book, and stood half in the balcony, framed as if in a panel, looking for a place."

"You remind me of the Thousandth Man," she told him as she found it. "Who was he?"

"He's every man who does a thousandth part of what you're doing!" said Blanche with confidence. And then she read, rather shyly and not too well:

"One man in a thousand," Solomon says. "Will stick more closely than a brother, and it's worth while seeking him out."

If you find him before the other, nine hundred and ninety-nine depend on what the world sees in you. But the Thousandth Man will stand your friend."

"With the whole crowd you again?"

"I should hope he would," said Blanche. "It's his man at all."

"But this is the bit for you," said Blanche.

"His wrongs, your wrong, and his right's your right."

In season or out of season. Stand up and back in all men's sight—With that for your only reason! Nine hundred and ninety-nine can't hide the shame of knocking or laughing. But the Thousandth Man will stand your friend."

"To the gallows—and after!"

The last words were italics in Blanche's voice, and it trembled, but so did Blanche's as he cried out in his formula:

"That's the finest thing I ever heard in all my life! But it's true, and so it should be. I don't take any credit for it."

"Then you're all the more the thousandth man!"

He caught her suddenly by the shoulders. His rough hands trembled; his jaw worked. "Look here, Blanche! If you had a friend, wouldn't you do the same?"

"Yes, if I'd such a friend as all that," she faltered.

"You'd stand by his side to the gallows-foot—if he was swine enough to let you?"

"I dare say I might."

"However had a thing it was—murder, if you like—and however much he was mixed up in it—not like poor Scruton!"

"I'd try to stick to him," she said simply.

"Then you're the thousandth woman," said Blanche. "God bless you, Blanche!"

He turned on his heel in the balcony, and a minute later found the room behind him empty. He entered, stood thinking, and suddenly began looking all over for the photograph of himself, with a beard, which he had seen there a week before.

CHAPTER XII.

Quid pro Quo.

It was his blessing that had done it; up to then she had controlled her feelings in a fashion worthy of the title just bestowed upon her. If only he had stopped at that, and kept his blessing to himself! It sounded so very much more like a knell than Blanche had begun first to laugh, and then to make such a fool of herself (as she herself reiterated) that she was obliged to run away in the worst possible order.

But that was not the end of those four superfluous words of final benediction; before the night was out she had solved, to Blanche's satisfaction, the hitherto impenetrable mystery of Blanche's conduct.

He had done something in Australia, something that drew a puff between him and her. Blanche did not mean something wrong, much less a crime, least of all any sort of complicity in the great crime which had been committed while he was on his way home. But she believed the worst he had done was to emulate his friend, Mr. Potts, and to get engaged or perhaps actually married to somebody in the bush.

There was no reason why he should not; there never had been any sort of kind of understanding between herself and him; it was only as a friend, friends that had written to each other, and that only once a year. Life long friendships are traditionally fatal to romance. They had both been bound by the same ties, and he was no longer, she had absolutely no cause for complaint, even if she was too young to feel it.

All this she saw quite clearly in her very honest heart. And yet, he might have told her; he need not have done so.

of dining upon Saturday as upon Sunday, but being puzzled with the different practices then prevailing (for they had been to visit at Rome on Saturday) he consulted St. Ambrose, the bishop of Milan, on the subject. The answer of the Milan saint was this: 'When I am here I do not fast on Saturday, but when at Rome I do fast on Saturday.'

Burton, in his "Anatomy of Melancholy," speaks of those persons who are always away in mind and action by their surroundings. "When they

are at Rome," he says, "they do there as they see do."

His Accustomed Place.

Seventy-year-old Francis was watching his papa start for the office and reporting his progress to mamma, who was a little near-sighted.

"The car's stopping for him," said Francis.

"Yes, mamma," he said, "and taken his place on a strap!"

Puck.

that is subsequently permitted to dry out.

Verbal Economy.

Little Johnny's mother asked him the other day how he liked some new play-fellows, whose family had lately settled in the village. "They play all right, mummy; but they use awful naughty swear-words sometimes." "Oh, Johnny!" "You needn't mind, mummy. I don't use swear-words. I only say to them 'Diddle'!"—Stray Stories.

to see her, the instant he landed, or seemed so overjoyed, and such a boy again, or made so much of her and their common memories! He need not have begun begging her, in a minute, to go out to Australia, and then never have mentioned it again; he might just as well have told her if he had or hoped to have a wife to welcome her! Of course he saw it afterward, himself; that was why the whole subject of Australia had been dropped so suddenly and for good. Most likely he had married beneath him; so, she was very sorry, but he might have said that he was married.

Curiously enough, it was over Martha that she felt least able to forgive him. Martha would say nothing, but her unspoken denunciations of Blanche let would be only less insupportable than her unspoken sympathy with Blanche. Martha had been perfectly awful about the whole thing. And Martha had committed the final outrage of being perfectly right, from her idiotic point of view.

No, among all these meditations of a long night, and of a still longer day in which nobody even troubled to send her word of the case at Kingston, it would be too much to say that no thought of Hilton Toye ever entered the mind of Blanche. She could not but think of him; he amused her immensely, and he had proposed to her twice, and warned her he would again. She felt the force of his warning, because she felt his force of character.

"There was neither shame, pose, nor hesitation about that. Blanche went through into the room without a word, but her eyes shone finely in the lamplight. Then she returned with a book, and stood half in the balcony, framed as if in a panel, looking for a place."

"You remind me of the Thousandth Man," she told him as she found it. "Who was he?"

"He's every man who does a thousandth part of what you're doing!" said Blanche with confidence. And then she read, rather shyly and not too well:

"One man in a thousand," Solomon says. "Will stick more closely than a brother, and it's worth while seeking him out."

If you find him before the other, nine hundred and ninety-nine depend on what the world sees in you. But the Thousandth Man will stand your friend."

"With the whole crowd you again?"

"I should hope he would," said Blanche. "It's his man at all."

"But this is the bit for you," said Blanche.

"His wrongs, your wrong, and his right's your right."

In season or out of season. Stand up and back in all men's sight—With that for your only reason! Nine hundred and ninety-nine can't hide the shame of knocking or laughing. But the Thousandth Man will stand your friend."

"To the gallows—and after!"

The last words were italics in Blanche's voice, and it trembled, but so did Blanche's as he cried out in his formula:

"That's the finest thing I ever heard in all my life! But it's true, and so it should be. I don't take any credit for it."

"Then you're all the more the thousandth man!"

He caught her suddenly by the shoulders. His rough hands trembled; his jaw worked. "Look here, Blanche! If you had a friend, wouldn't you do the same?"

"Yes, if I'd such a friend as all that," she faltered.

"You'd stand by his side to the gallows-foot—if he was swine enough to let you?"

"I dare say I might."

"However had a thing it was—murder, if you like—and however much he was mixed up in it—not like poor Scruton!"

"I'd try to stick to him," she said simply.

"Then you're the thousandth woman," said Blanche. "God bless you, Blanche!"

He turned on his heel in the balcony, and a minute later found the room behind him empty. He entered, stood thinking, and suddenly began looking all over for the photograph of himself, with a beard, which he had seen there a week before.

of dining upon Saturday as upon Sunday, but being puzzled with the different practices then prevailing (for they had been to visit at Rome on Saturday) he consulted St. Ambrose, the bishop of Milan, on the subject. The answer of the Milan saint was this: 'When I am here I do not fast on Saturday, but when at Rome I do fast on Saturday.'

Burton, in his "Anatomy of Melancholy," speaks of those persons who are always away in mind and action by their surroundings. "When they

are at Rome," he says, "they do there as they see do."

His Accustomed Place.

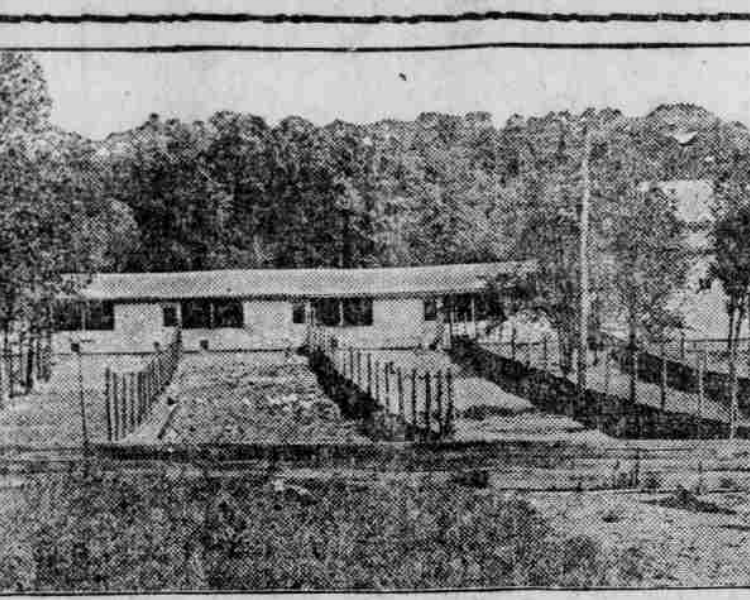
Seventy-year-old Francis was watching his papa start for the office and reporting his progress to mamma, who was a little near-sighted.

"The car's stopping for him," said Francis.

"Yes, mamma," he said, "and taken his place on a strap!"

Puck.

SPECIAL CARE FOR POULTRY IN WINTER



Long Poultry House, Used on Government Poultry Farm at Beltsville, Md.

(From Weekly Letter, United States Department of Agriculture.)

To obtain good results from a flock of poultry during the winter all houses and coops should be put in good condition, only healthy fowls placed in the buildings, and good care given to the poultry. The houses should be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and made tight for winter. If the house has a dirt floor, it is well to remove it and substitute gravel or sand. If the floor is cement or wood, remove all litter and dirt and put in four or five inches of fresh straw or litter. Be sure that the house is light on three sides and that there is no chance for a draft to strike the fowls. If hens roost or are placed in a draft during the fall and winter, colds are sure to develop, which may result in roup and other troubles. The south side, or front, of the poultry house may be left comparatively open, but should be under control, so that the openings may be closed gradually as the weather becomes cold. Have muslin curtains in the front of the house, or leave a window partly open even on the coldest nights to allow some ventilation in the house. Fowls will stand considerable cold air provided it is dry, and ventilation will keep the air thoroughly dry in the house.

The pullets should be brought in off the range and put in winter quarters, before they are mixed with the older fowls. Be sure that the hens are banded or that the web of the foot is punched in some way so as to distinguish between the pullets and the hens. In this way the older stock may be culled out whenever it appears desirable, and the young hens kept for further laying. Cull the chickens which are brought into the laying house carefully, and fatten and market all chickens which are small, poorly developed or in poor condition. These small, poorly-developed chickens are apt to catch cold if put in with the other poultry, and develop diseases which quickly spread through the flock. Market all surplus cockerels or older male birds which are not desired for breeding or not wanted for a later market.

Feed the grain in a deep litter on the floor and make the hens exercise for all of their grain. The mash may be fed either wet or dry, and should be so regulated that the fowls will get about equal parts of mash and of the scratch grains. It is necessary to give the fowls plenty to eat to get

good results, but the birds should always be eager for each feed. In cold weather feed about one-third of the scratch grains in the morning and two-thirds at night. In this way the hens are forced to exercise more than if they receive all the grain they desire at the morning feed. Scratch grains, mash or ground grains, animal protein, green feed, grit and shell should be supplied in the winter. A good scratch mixture may be made of equal parts, by weight, of cracked corn, wheat and oats; and a mash may be made of two parts corn meal and one part each of wheat bran, wheat middlings and beef scrap. Green feed, such as cabbage, mangold wurtzel, beets, cut alfalfa or sprouted oats, should be supplied to replace the green feed which the fowls have been getting in the field; and beef scrap, skim milk, cut green bone or sizzler feed is needed to replace the bugs which the fowls have been getting on the range. Beef scrap or feed of this nature is very essential in securing a good supply of eggs during the winter months.

Clean the dropping boards at least once a week, and spray the roosts with kerosene or some commercial preparation for killing mites once a month during the winter. Have a good supply of sand or dry dirt on hand to use on the dropping boards during the winter.

If any of the birds develop colds, put as much potassium permanganate as will remain on the surface of a dime into a gallon of water and keep the birds drinking from it for several days, or until the symptoms of the colds have disappeared. Remove any sick birds from the flock as soon as they are noted, and treat them in coops by themselves, or kill and bury them if they are not worth treating.

Examine the pullets and hens for lice, and dust thoroughly with a good insect powder or apply a mixture of two parts of vasoline and one part of mercuric or blue ointment, about the size of a pea, one inch below the vent of the bird, rubbing the mixture lightly on the skin. An application of this ointment two or three times a year will keep the fowls free from lice. Where insect powder is used, it should be applied three or four times a year, or oftener if the fowls become infested. Provide a small box in the house partly filled with dry road dust or fine dirt in which the hens may dust, thus helping to keep them selves free from lice.

exercise during the warmer days in winter. It is very essential to provide for giving the fowls all the exercise possible, as animals are at their best when they are getting no exercise.

Sunbath is provided in all parts of the house by the windows on the roof. This side of the roof is faced toward the south, and the sunshine is admitted to both the front and the back of the house by the two rows of windows. The windows along the side also help in bringing plenty of sunshine into the house.

All the windows are made in the same way. They have a galvanized iron frame and the sash is also made of the same material. This makes a strong, substantial window that can withstand the ravages of the elements. This is especially necessary in the windows placed on the roof. A wooden window in this place would be likely to retain the water after a rain so that it would swell and warp out of place.

The foundation and the floor of the building is made of concrete so that it can be readily cleaned. In each of the pens is placed a movable floor that is made of planks. A concrete floor is too cold for fowls to sleep on. The planks can be readily taken out of the way when the floor is to be cleaned. The plank floor is held up from the concrete by another plank along the ends.

The walls of the building are made double so that there will be no difficulty in keeping the house warm. There should be plenty of fowls in the hoghouse in cold weather so that they can keep warm, as the heating is taken care of by their body heat. The pens are 8 feet by 6 feet, which is large enough to take care of a sow and her litter. This size pen is also

used for the purpose of raising piglets. Probably the worst of the cold weather is the time when the fowls are at their best when they are getting no exercise.

Sunbath is provided in all parts of the house by the windows on the roof. This side of the roof is faced toward the south, and the sunshine is admitted to both the front and the back of the house by the two rows of windows. The windows along the side also help in bringing plenty of sunshine into the house.

All the windows are made in the same way. They have a galvanized iron frame and the sash is also made of the same material. This makes a strong, substantial window that can withstand the ravages of the elements. This is especially necessary in the windows placed on the roof. A wooden window in this place would be likely to retain the water after a rain so that it would swell and warp out of place.

The foundation and the floor of the building is made of concrete so that it can be readily cleaned. In each of the pens is placed a movable floor that is made of planks. A concrete floor is too cold for fowls to sleep on. The planks can be readily taken out of the way when the floor is to be cleaned. The plank floor is held up from the concrete by another plank along the ends.

The walls of the building are made double so that there will be no difficulty in keeping the house warm. There should be plenty of fowls in the hoghouse in cold weather so that they can keep warm, as the heating is taken care of by their body heat. The pens are 8 feet by 6 feet, which is large enough to take care of a sow and her litter. This size pen is also

used for the purpose of raising piglets. Probably the worst of the cold weather is the time when the fowls are at their best when they are getting no exercise.

Sunbath is provided in all parts of the house by the windows on the roof. This side of the roof is faced toward the south, and the sunshine is admitted to both the front and the back of the house by the two rows of windows. The windows along the side also help in bringing plenty of sunshine into the house.

All the windows are made in the same way. They have a galvanized iron frame and the sash is also made of the same material. This makes a strong, substantial window that can withstand the ravages of the elements. This is especially necessary in the windows placed on the roof. A wooden window in this place would be likely to retain the water after a rain so that it would swell and warp out of place.

The foundation and the floor of the building is made of concrete so that it can be readily cleaned. In each of the pens is placed a movable floor that is made of planks. A concrete floor is too cold for fowls to sleep on. The planks can be readily taken out of the way when the floor is to be cleaned. The plank floor is held up from the concrete by another plank along the ends.

The walls of the building are made double so that there will be no difficulty in keeping the house warm. There should be plenty of fowls in the hoghouse in cold weather so that they can keep warm, as the heating is taken care of by their body heat. The pens are 8 feet by 6 feet, which is large enough to take care of a sow and her litter. This size pen is also

used for the purpose of raising piglets. Probably the worst of the cold weather is the time when the fowls are at their best when they are getting no exercise.

Sunbath is provided in all parts of the house by the windows on the roof. This side of the roof is faced toward the south, and the sunshine is admitted to both the front and the back of the house by the two rows of windows. The windows along the side also help in bringing plenty of sunshine into the house.

All the windows are made in the same way. They have a galvanized iron frame and the sash is also made of the same material. This makes a strong, substantial window that can withstand the ravages of the elements. This is especially necessary in the windows placed on the roof. A wooden window in this place would be likely to retain the water after a rain so that it would swell and warp out of place.

The foundation and the floor of the building is made of concrete so that it can be readily cleaned. In each of the pens is placed a movable floor that is made of planks. A concrete floor is too cold for fowls to sleep on. The planks can be readily taken out of the way when the floor is to be cleaned. The plank floor is held up from the concrete by another plank along the ends.

The walls of the building are made double so that there will be no difficulty in keeping the house warm. There should be plenty of fowls in the hoghouse in cold weather so that they can keep warm, as the heating is taken care of by their body heat. The pens are 8 feet by 6 feet, which is large enough to take care of a sow and her litter. This size pen is also

used for the purpose of raising piglets. Probably the worst of the cold weather is the time when the fowls are at their best when they are getting no exercise.

Sunbath is provided in all parts of the house by the windows on the roof. This side of the roof is faced toward the south, and the sunshine is admitted to both the front and the back of the house by the two rows of windows. The windows along the side also help in bringing plenty of sunshine into the house.

All the windows are made in the same way. They have a galvanized iron frame and the sash is also made of the same material. This makes a strong, substantial window that can withstand the ravages of the elements. This is especially necessary in the windows placed on the roof. A wooden window in this place would be likely to retain the water after a rain so that it would swell and warp out of place.

The foundation and the floor of the building is made of concrete so that it can be readily cleaned. In each of the pens is placed a movable floor that is made of planks. A concrete floor is too cold for fowls to sleep on. The planks can be readily taken out of the way when the floor is to be cleaned. The plank floor is held up from the concrete by another plank along the ends.

The walls of the building are made double so that there will be no difficulty in keeping the house warm. There should be plenty of fowls in the hoghouse in cold weather so that they can keep warm, as the heating is taken care of by their body heat. The pens are 8 feet by 6 feet, which is large enough to take care of a sow and her litter. This size pen is also

used for the purpose of raising piglets. Probably the worst of the cold weather is the time when the fowls are at their best when they are getting no exercise.

APPROVED TYPE OF HOGHOUSE

Designed Mainly for Proper Care of Animals During Cold Weather.

IDEAL FOR BREEDING STOCK

Building Such as This Means Increased Balance on the Right Side of the Ledger at the End of the Year—Its Construction Explained.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building hog houses, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1327 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only include two-cent stamp for reply.

The hoghouse shown here is designed to take care of quite a number of hogs through the cold months. It provides a place where the hogs can be fattened for the market and also where the breeding stock can be kept. In the fall many of the hogs that are raised for the market are not fat enough so that a good profit can be realized, and if a building such as this is available they can be held over till spring. The breeding stock require warm quarters where they can

large enough so that four or five hogs can be kept in them for fattening during the winter. These hogs should be nearly the same size as they may pile up and smother the smaller ones. If more than four or five are placed in a pen, the same thing may happen, even if the hogs are almost of the same size.

The feeding and litter alley runs through the center of the house lengthwise between the two rows of pens. Very often a litter carrier is installed though it is not as necessary as in a dairy barn. Along each row of pens is a gutter, and the concrete floors of the pens are sloped slightly so that they can be easily washed out. It is not absolutely necessary to have the floors on a slant, as the pens are swept out very often, anyway.

The partitions between the pens are almost always made of light boards so that each pen will be easier to keep warm. If hog wire is used it is necessary to have the house full in order to keep it warm.

Drafts must be prevented in hoghouses, as they are very dangerous to hogs of all kinds. It is also very carefully. They are imbedded in fresh cement mortar and the mortar is troweled against them on both the inside and the outside. The concrete foundation walls are carried up 18 inches above grade so that no drafts will be caused along the ground.